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Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic

Financial performance report of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report contains the financial performance report of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA) for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000. The General Assembly, by its resolutions 53/238 of 8 June 1999 and 54/277 of 15 June 2000, appropriated a total amount of $41,098,075 gross ($40,069,275 net) for the maintenance and liquidation of the Mission for this period, inclusive of $1,659,640 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of $325,435 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy. Expenditures for the period totalled $39,900,975 gross ($38,916,875 net), resulting in an unencumbered balance of $1,197,100 gross ($1,152,400 net).

The unencumbered balance resulted mainly from lower actual costs for military contingents and civilian personnel, as well as reduced operational requirements under premises/accommodation, air operations and other programmes.

The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the Mission is set out in paragraph 14 of the present report.

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I. Introduction

1. The United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA) was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1159 (1998) of 27 March 1998 with effect from 15 April 1998 for an initial period of three months. The Mission's mandate has been extended by the Council in subsequent resolutions, the last of which was resolution 1271 (1999) of 22 October 1999, in which the Council extended the Mission's mandate until 15 February 2000, with a view to ensuring a short and gradual transition from United Nations peacekeeping involvement in the Central African Republic to a post-conflict peace-building presence.

2. In its resolution 1230 (1999) of 26 February 1999, the Security Council, inter alia, expressed its intention to commence the reduction of MINURCA personnel 15 days after the conclusion of the presidential elections in the Central African Republic, with a view to the full termination of the Mission no later than 15 November 1999.

3. Accordingly, the initial budget of MINURCA for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 contained in the report of the Secretary-General dated 5 May 1999 (A/53/939) provided resources for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 15 November 1999 at the authorized strength of 1,350 contingent personnel, 24 civilian police, 225 civilian staff and 13 United Nations Volunteers, and for its liquidation thereafter. The initial budget amounted to $31,382,800 gross ($30,587,600 net), exclusive of budgeted voluntary contributions in kind of $784,400.

4. Based on the recommendation contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions dated 21 May 1999 (A/53/971), the General Assembly, in its resolution 53/238 of 8 June 1999, appropriated an amount of $33,367,875 gross ($32,572,675 net) for the maintenance of the Mission for this period, inclusive of $1,659,640 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and $325,435 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (UNLB).

5. While the budget did not reflect costs associated with the supportive role that MINURCA had been authorized to play in the conduct of the presidential elections in the Central African Republic, as these requirements could not have been determined at the time of budget preparation, resources amounting to $6,701,900 were subsequently provided for this purpose in a commitment authority granted by the Advisory Committee in a letter dated 14 July 1999 from its Chairman addressed to the Secretary-General.

6. Subsequently, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1271 (1999), the Mission's resource requirements were revised to provide for its maintenance for the period from 1 July 1999 to 15 February 2000 and its subsequent liquidation. The revised budget of MINURCA was contained in the report of the Secretary-General dated 4 May 2000 (A/54/857) and amounted to $41,098,075 gross ($40,069,275 net), exclusive of budgeted voluntary contributions in kind of $736,300.

7. Based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its report dated 11 May 2000 (A/54/865), the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/277 of 15 June 2000, appropriated an amount of $7,730,200 gross ($7,496,600 net) for the maintenance and liquidation of the Mission for the period ending 30

June 2000, inclusive of the amount of $6,701,900 authorized by the Advisory Committee, and in addition to the amount of $33,367,875 gross ($32,572,675 net) already appropriated under its resolution 53/238. The total appropriation for MINURCA for the period 1999-2000 amounted to $41,098,075 gross ($40,069,275 net), inclusive of the commitment authority previously granted by the Advisory Committee (see para. 5 above) and of $1,659,640 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and $325,435 for UNLB. These amounts have been assessed on Member States. Taking into account voluntary contributions in kind of $736,300, total resources provided to MINURCA for the financial period 1999-2000 amounted to $41,834,375 gross ($40,805,575 net).

II. Implementation of the budget

8. Information on the operations of MINURCA and on the situation on the ground during the reporting period is contained in the reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council dated 15 July 1999 (S/1999/788) and 7 October 1999 (S/1999/1038).

9. During the reporting period, the military force of MINURCA continued to assist in maintaining a secure and stable environment in Bangui through the conduct of regular patrols and maintenance of checkpoints operated 24 hours a day.

10. Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1230 (1999), MINURCA provided logistical support and participated in the observation of the presidential elections held from 19 through 23 September 1999. To this end, the Mission arranged for the deployment of troops drawn from its existing contingents together with additional logistical, medical and communications support personnel provided by the Governments of Canada and Egypt. Beginning on 1 September, the United Nations began deploying short-term electoral observers to sites throughout the country. The observers, assigned to teams in Bangui and the provinces, were able to observe the electoral process at about 45 per cent of polling stations throughout the country. Following the announcement of the results of the election, MINURCA started its withdrawal from electoral sites in the provinces, which was completed by 31 October 1999.

11. Following the decision of the Security Council in its resolution 1271 (1999) to extend the mandate of the Mission until 15 February 2000, the Secretary-General implemented a phased reduction of military contingents completed by mid-March 2000 and a drawdown of civilian personnel, the shipment of contingent-owned equipment and the disposition of United Nations-owned assets, with a view to the completion of liquidation activities in situ by 30 June 2000, followed by a short liquidation period at United Nations Headquarters.

12. While expenditures incurred by MINURCA during the reporting period were within the budgetary parameters, requirements for miscellaneous services exceeded budgetary projections contributing to a marginal overrun (5.3 per cent of apportionment) under the supplies and services budget line item (see annex II, para. 18, for details).

III. Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

13. As indicated in table 1 below, an amount of $41,098,075 gross ($40,069,275 net) was appropriated for the maintenance and liquidation of MINURCA for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000. The related expenditures amounted to $39,900,975 gross ($38,916,875 net), inclusive of $5,874,100 in unliquidated obligations. The resulting unencumbered balance of $1,197,100 gross ($1,152,400 net) represents, in gross terms 3 per cent of the amount appropriated.

Table 1
Apportionment and expenditure
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*[a]	*Variance*
Military personnel	17 952.2	17 769.2	183.0
Civilian personnel	10 002.1	9 638.2	363.9
Operational requirements	9 850.6	9 380.9	469.7
Other programmes	279.3	143.6	135.7
United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	325.4	325.4	-
Support account for peacekeeping operations	1 659.6	1 659.6	-
Staff assessment	1 028.8	984.1	44.7
Gross requirements	**41 098.1**	**39 901.0**	**1 197.1**
Income from staff assessment	(1 028.8)	(984.1)	(44.7)
Net requirements	**40 069.3**	**38 916.9**	**1 152.4**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	736.3	736.3	-
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	-	-	-
Total resources	**41 834.4**	**40 637.3**	**1 197.1**

[a] Includes an amount of $5,874,100 in unliquidated obligations.

Table 2

Authorized staffing, incumbency and vacancy rates for military and civilian personnel for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

Personnel category	*31 Jul*	*31 Aug*	*30 Sep*	*31 Oct*	*30 Nov*	*31 Dec*	*31 Jan*	*28 Feb*	*31 Mar*	*30 Apr*	*31 May*	*30 Jun*
Military contingents												
Authorized	1 288	1 372	1 350	1 230	1 194	800	426	185	[a]	-	-	-
Actual	1 288	1 372	1 350	1 230	1 194	800	426	185	[a]	-	-	-
Vacancy rate (percentage)												
Civilian police												
Authorized	24	24	24	24	24	16	9	1	-	-	-	-
Actual	24	24	24	24	24	16	9	1	-	-	-	-
Vacancy rate (percentage)												
International staff												
Authorized	100	112	113	108	98	87	81	42	19	3	3	3
Actual	100	112	113	108	98	87	81	42	19	3	2	2
Vacancy rate (percentage)											33	33
Local staff												
Authorized	110	109	109	109	108	91	61	47	45	8	-	-
Actual	110	109	109	109	108	91	61	47	45	8	-	-
Vacancy rate (percentage)												
United Nations Volunteers												
Authorized	40	41	40	14	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actual	40	41	40	14	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vacancy rate (percentage)												

[a] Repatriated on 11 March 2000.

IV. Action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session

14. The action to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of MINURCA is to decide on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $1,197,100 gross ($1,152,400 net) for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

Annex I

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000: summary statement

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	*(1)* *Apportionment* [a]	*(2)* *Non-recurrent expenditures*	*(3)* *Total expenditures (inclusive of non-recurrent expenditures)*	*(4) = (1 - 3)* *Variance*
I. Military personnel				
1. Military observers	-	-	-	-
2. Military contingents	14 295.8	-	14 112.8	183.0
3. Other requirements pertaining to military personnel				
(a) Contingent-owned equipment	2 508.6	-	2 508.6	-
(b) Self-sustainment	1 147.8	-	1 147.8	-
(c) Death and disability compensation	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, line 3	3 656.4	-	3 656.4	-
Total, category I	**17 952.2**	-	**17 769.2**	**183.0**
II. Civilian personnel				
1. Civilian police	596.3	-	589.0	7.3
2. International and local staff	8 064.2	-	7 797.8	266.4
3. United Nations Volunteers	793.1	-	793.0	0.1
4. Government-provided personnel	-	-	-	-
5. Civilian electoral observers	548.5	-	458.4	90.1
Total, category II	**10 002.1**	-	**9 638.2**	**363.9**
III. Operational requirements				
1. Premises/accommodations	1 092.5	-	925.2	167.3
2. Infrastructure repairs	28.9	-	15.6	13.3
3. Transport operations	445.7	-	390.0	55.7
4. Air operations	4 359.5	871.6	4 191.2	168.3
5. Naval operations	-	-	-	-
6. Communications	426.9	-	387.1	39.8
7. Other equipment	101.9	-	97.3	4.6
8. Supplies and services	809.8	-	853.1	(43.3)
9. Air and surface freight				
(a) Transport of contingent-owned equipment	2 530.7	2 480.7	2 480.7	50.0
(b) Commercial freight and cartage	54.7	-	40.7	14.0
Subtotal, line 9	2 585.4	2 480.7	2 521.4	64.0
Total, category III	**9 850.6**	**3 352.3**	**9 380.9**	**469.7**

Category of expenditure	(1) Apportionment [a]	(2) Non-recurrent expenditures	(3) Total expenditures (inclusive of non-recurrent expenditures)	(4) = (1 - 3) Variance
IV. Other programmes				
1. Election-related supplies and services	-	-	-	-
2. Public information programmes	195.2	-	94.8	100.4
3. Training programmes	84.1	-	48.8	35.3
4. Mine-clearing programmes	-	-	-	-
5. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization	-	-	-	-
Total, category IV	**279.3**	**-**	**143.6**	**135.7**
V. United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	**325.4**	**-**	**325.4**	**-**
VI. Support account for peacekeeping operations	**1 659.6**	**-**	**1 659.6**	**-**
VII. Staff assessment	**1 028.8**	**-**	**984.1**	**44.7**
Gross requirements, categories I-VII	41 098.1	3 352.3	39 901.0	1 197.1
VIII. Income from staff assessment	**(1 028.8)**	**-**	**(984.1)**	**(44.7)**
Net requirements, categories I-VIII	40 069.3	3 352.3	38 916.9	1 152.4
IX. Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	**736.3**	**-**	**736.3**	**-**
X. Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	-	-	-	-
Total	**41 834.4**	**3 352.3**	**40 637.3**	**1 197.1**

[a] Based on an appropriation provided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/238 and 54/277.

Annex II

Supplementary information on significant variances

Military personnel

Apportionment: $17,952,200; expenditure: $17,769,200; variance: $183,000

1. The unutilized balance of $183,000 under this heading was attributable to savings under military contingents as budgetary provisions made under other requirements pertaining to military personnel for the reimbursement of troop-contributing countries for the contingent-owned equipment and self-sustainment were fully obligated.

Military contingents

Apportionment: $14,295,800; expenditure: $14,112,800; variance: $183,000

2. The unutilized balance of $183,000 under this heading was largely attributable to lower actual costs for rations ($117,800) as well as to savings under the emplacement, rotation and repatriation of troops ($63,600).

Civilian personnel

Apportionment: $10,002,100; expenditure: $9,638,200; variance: $363,900

3. The unutilized balance of $363,900 under this heading was primarily attributable to reduced requirements under civilian police ($7,300), international and local staff ($266,400) and civilian electoral observers ($90,100).

Civilian police

Apportionment: $596,300; expenditure: $589,000; variance: $7,300

4. The unutilized balance of $7,300 was attributable to lower actual cost of repatriation travel for civilian police serving in the mission area.

International and local staff

Apportionment: $8,064,200; expenditure: $7,797,800; variance: $266,400

5. Provision of $8,064,200 under this heading covered an estimated 680 work-months of international staff and 797 work-months of local staff. While the deployment of international staff was largely consistent with budgetary parameters, actual salary costs were lower than standard salaries used in the budget.

6. The unutilized balance of $266,400 under this heading was attributable to savings under international ($139,500) and local ($49,600) staff salaries, common staff costs ($72,400), mission subsistence allowance ($9,300) and other official travel ($1,200), partly offset by additional requirements under general temporary assistance ($5,300), consultants ($200) and overtime ($200).

Civilian electoral observers

Apportionment: $548,500; expenditure: $458,400; variance: $90,100

7. The unutilized balance of $90,100 under this heading reflects lower actual travel costs for short-term electoral observers as well as a reduced average deployment period compared to what was budgeted.

Operational requirements

Apportionment: $9,850,600; expenditure: $9,380,900; variance: $469,700

8. The unutilized balance of $469,700 under this heading resulted from reduced requirements under premises/accommodation ($167,300), infrastructure repairs ($13,300), transport operations ($55,700), air operations ($168,300), communications ($39,800), other equipment ($4,600) and air and surface freight ($64,000), partially offset by additional requirements under supplies and services ($43,300).

Premises/accommodation

Apportionment: $1,092,500; expenditure: $925,200; variance: $167,300

9. The unutilized balance of $167,300 under this heading was primarily attributable to reduced requirements under alteration and renovation of premises ($60,400) and utilities ($101,300) owing to lower actual expenditures on electricity, water and generator fuel. Actual expenditures for the rental of premises and maintenance services were also lower than the provision made in the budget, resulting in savings of $4,000 and $1,900 under the respective budget line items. The unutilized balances were partially offset by additional requirements under maintenance supplies ($300).

Infrastructure repairs

Apportionment: $28,900; expenditure: $15,600; variance: $13,300

10. Actual expenditures for the maintenance and upgrading of roads were less than was budgeted, which lead to savings under this heading.

Transport operations

Apportionment: $445,700; expenditure: $390,000; variance: $55,700

11. The unutilized balance under this heading was attributable to lower than projected requirements for spare parts, repairs and maintenance ($12,800) as well as to the availability of petrol and diesel fuel reserves purchased in the prior financial period ($42,900).

Air operations

Apportionment: $4,359,500; expenditure: $4,191,200; variance: $168,300

12. The unutilized balance of $168,300 under this heading was attributable to reduced requirements under helicopter ($133,800) and fixed-wing aircraft ($25,500)

operations, as well as other air operations requirements ($10,000), partially offset by additional requirements for aircrew subsistence allowance ($900).

13. While provision for helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft hire costs was in line with budgetary projections, savings were realized under aviation fuel and lubricants owing to the availability of aviation fuel reserves purchased in the preceding financial period ($147,800). The unutilized balance was partially offset by additional requirements to meet third-party liability insurance premiums ($2,000).

14. The unutilized balance under other air operations requirements relates to savings resulting from lower actual costs for air traffic control services ($15,000), partially offset by additional requirements for landing fees charged within the Mission area ($5,000).

Communications

Apportionment: $426,900; expenditure: $387,100; variance: $39,800

15. Provision of $426,900 under this heading covered the projected cost of commercial communications during the reporting period. The actual INTELSAT transponder lease costs and INMARSAT usage charges as well as local commercial communications costs amounted to $387,100, resulting in the unutilized balance of $39,800.

Other equipment

Apportionment: $101,900; expenditure: $97,300; variance: $4,600

16. The net unutilized balance of $4,600 under this heading was attributable to reduced requirements for spare parts, repairs and maintenance ($5,500) partially offset by unforeseen additional requirements for office and data-processing equipment ($900).

Supplies and services

Apportionment: $809,800; expenditure: $853,100; variance: ($43,300)

17. Additional requirements of $43,300 under this heading reflect increased requirements for miscellaneous services ($50,900), partially offset by reduced requirements under miscellaneous supplies ($7,600).

18. Net additional requirements under miscellaneous services were primarily attributable to unforeseen expenditures attributable to losses on currency fluctuation ($50,900), as well as to higher contractual charges for security services ($2,900), partially offset by savings realized due to lower actual requirements for contractual services ($2,900).

19. Under miscellaneous supplies, the unutilized balance of $7,600 was attributable to reduced consumption of stationery and office supplies ($1,100) and sanitation and cleaning materials ($5,200), as well as to lower actual requirements for quartermaster and general stores ($1,300).

Air and surface freight

Apportionment: $2,585,400; expenditure: $2,521,400; variance: $64,000

20. The unutilized balance of $64,000 under this heading was attributable to savings under the transportation of contingent-owned equipment ($50,000), as well as commercial freight and cartage ($14,000) budget line items. Provision was made for the repatriation of contingent-owned equipment as well as the shipment of United Nations-owned equipment by sea movement from MINURCA to UNLB. Actual cost of transportation of contingent-owned equipment was lower than what was originally budgeted. With regard to commercial freight and cartage, savings were largely a result of the transfer of some assets to other missions, with the cost of shipment absorbed by the recipient mission.

Other programmes

Apportionment: $279,300; expenditure: $143,600; variance: $135,700

21. The unutilized balance of $135,700 is attributable to reduced requirements for public information ($100,400) and training programmes ($35,300) during the reporting period. Actual requirements for contractual services were significantly lower than originally estimated, while costs of public information materials and equipment, particularly those in support of Radio MINURCA activities, were also lower than projected. Savings under training reflect lower actual costs for technical skills training and train-the-trainer programmes, which were conducted in-house within the Mission.

Staff assessment

Apportionment: $1,028,800; expenditure: $984,100; variance: $44,700

22. Savings of $44,700 under this heading were attributable to lower than budgeted staff assessment charges.

Income from staff assessment

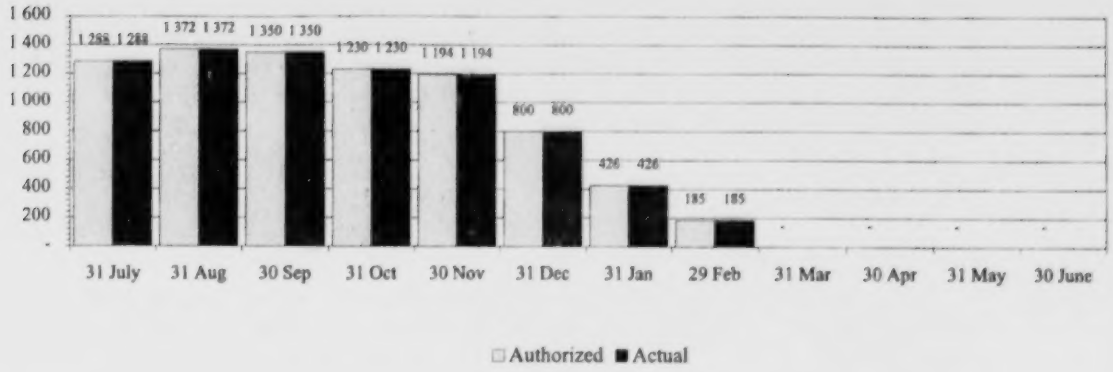
Apportionment: ($1,028,800); expenditure: ($984,100); variance: ($44,700)

23. This amount is derived from staff assessment (see para. 22 above).

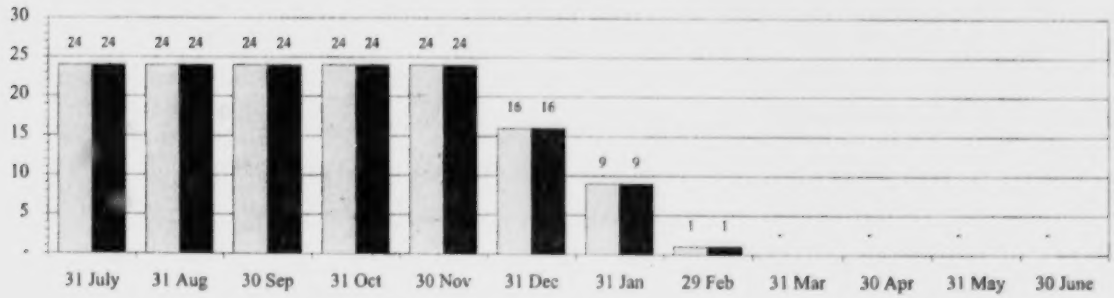
Annex III

Planned and actual deployment of military and civilian personnel for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

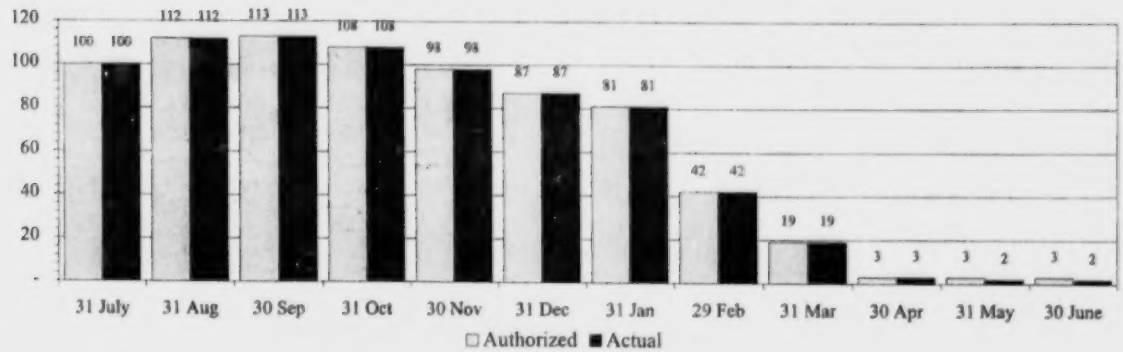
1. Military contingents



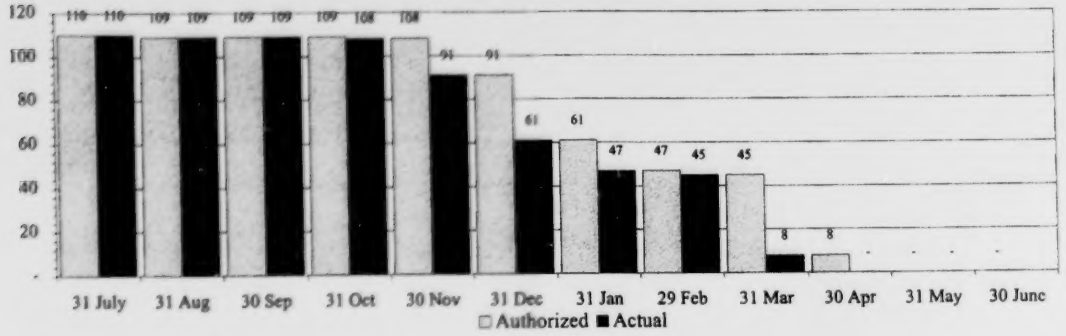
2. Civilian police



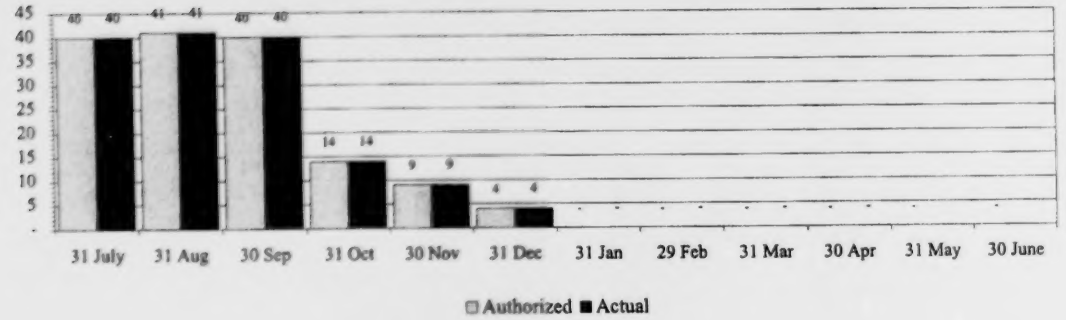
3. International staff



4. Local staff



5. United Nations Volunteers



Annex IV

Apportionment and expenditure for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000